

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 05760 082347Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /042 W
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FM AMEMBASRDY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8739

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 5760

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, HO
SUBJECT: RUMORED TRANSFERS OF ARMY CAPTAINS CONFIRMED

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 5496

1. SAN PEDRO SULA DAILIES, LA PRENSA AND EL TIEMPO, HAVE PUBLISHED STORY THAT FIVE ARMY CAPTAINS ARE TO BE SENT OVERSEAS AS MILITARY ATTCHES. THE PRESS ALSO SPECULATES THAT THE FIVE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH "PROGRESSIVE" MILITARY OFFICERS NOW ASSIGNED OVERSEAS (REFTEL PARA 11).

2. ALL FIVE CAPTAINS REPORTEDLY BELONG TO THE SIXTH GRADUATING CLASS OF THE HONDURAN MILITARY ACADEMY. EL TIEMPO, WHICH CALLS THE TRANSFERS A "PURGE" IDENTIFIED THEM AS: ERIC SANCHEZ, RICARDO ZUNIGA MORAZAN, CARLOS HIDALGO OCHOA, ROLANDO VALENCIA AND C. AMAYA Y AMAYA. ZUNIGA IS THE SON OF NATIONALIST PARTY LEADER RPRARDO ZUNIGA.

3. ARMED FORCES G-2 LT. COL. LEONIDAS TORRES ARIAS INTERVIEWED ON RADIO CONFIRMED THE TRANSFERBEAND NOTED YEAR-END CHANGES SUCH AS THIS WERE ROUTINE.

4. COMMENT: THE ARMY DOES SEND A NUMBER OF JUNIOR OFFICERS TO SCHOOL ABROAD AND OFTEN ACCREDITS THEM AS ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHES AT THE SAME TIME. IF PRESS SOURCES ARE CORRECT, CONFIDENTIAL

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AS SEEM PROBABLE, IN SPECULATING THAT THE FIVE CAPTAINS ARE CONNECTED WITH THE "PROGRESSIVE" TENDENCY WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE SUPERIOR DEFENSE COUNCIL (SDC), THEIR TRANSFER IS ANOTHER INSTANCE OF CONTINUED MANEUVERING WITHIN THE SDC AND CONSOLIDATION BY MORE "CONSERVATIVE" OFFICERS. THESE TRANSFERS, FOR WHATEVER REASON, ARE NOT LIKELY TO AFFECT THE BASIC UNITY OF THE ARMED FORCES.
JARAMILLO

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Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 08-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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